

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. – 33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An anastomosis connector comprising:

a base adapted for attachment to a graft,

a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;

a rear segment extending from said base; and

a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and

wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90°; and further comprising a collar adapted for attachment to said connector, The connector of claim 31,
wherein said collar comprises a wireform.

35. (Previously Presented) The connector of claim 34, wherein said wireform is produced by removing material from stock selected from a group consisting of tube stock and flat stock.

36. – 55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently Amended) An anastomosis connector comprising:

a base adapted for attachment to a graft,

a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;

a rear segment extending from said base; and

a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning

to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and

wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90° and wherein said connector comprises a plurality of interconnected links having spaces therebetween and adapted to engage the inner surface of the host vessel and ~~The connector of claim 55 wherein~~ at least said leading and rear segments are formed from said interconnected links.

57. (Currently Amended) An anastomosis connector comprising:

a base adapted for attachment to a graft,

a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;

a rear segment extending from said base; and

a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90° and wherein said connector comprises a plurality of interconnected links having spaces therebetween and adapted to engage the inner surface of the host vessel and ~~The connector of claim 55 wherein~~ said at least one lateral portion is formed from said interconnected links.

58. – 76. (Canceled)